

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 9530.3
Application Serial No. 10/049,727
Page 7

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in the above application. Claims 1-13, 16-17, 19, 21, 23, 24 and 31 are amended herein for clarity to more particularly define the invention. Support for these amendments is found in the language of the original claims and throughout the specification. No new matter is added by these amendments and applicants respectfully request their entry and examination.

RESTRICTION OF CLAIMS

The Office Action states that the application contains the following groups of inventions.

Group I, claims 1-2, 4, 6-7, 12 and 14-24, drawn to a method for determining active PAI-1 comprising a first antibody to PAI-1 and a labeled second antibody to multimeric vitronectin.

Group II, claims 1, 3, 5, 8-9 and 13-24, drawn to a method for determining active PAI-1 comprising a first antibody to multimeric vitronectin and a labeled second antibody to PAI-1.

Group III, claims 1, 10-11 and 14-24, drawn to a method for determining active PAI-1 comprising a labeled third antibody.

Group IV, claims 25 and 27-28, drawn to a kit comprising a PAI-1 antibody and a labeled antibody to multimeric vitronectin.

Group V, claims 26 and 32-33, drawn to a kit comprising a multimeric vitronectin antibody and a labeled antibody to PAI-1.

Group VI, claims 29-31, drawn to a kit comprising a third labeled antibody.

Applicants provisionally elect Group II (claims 1, 3 5, 8-9 and 13-24) with traverse. The traversal is on the basis that pursuant to PCT Rules 13.1 and 13.2, the application shall "relate to one invention only or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept"

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 9530.3

Application Serial No. 10/049,727

Page 8

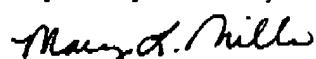
invention only or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept" and that the requirement for unity of invention is fulfilled "only when there is a technical relationship among those inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding technical features," which are those features "that define a contribution which each of the claimed inventions, considered as a whole, makes over the prior art."

Upon the application of these rules, it can be reasonably concluded that the claims do form a single general inventive concept, on the basis that all of the claims recite methods and compositions for determining PAI-1 in a biological fluid. At a minimum, the claims of Group V (claims 26 and 32-33) should be examined together with the claims of Group II on the basis that claims 26 and 32-33 recite a kit for carrying out the method of the claims of Group II.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned directly if such contact will expedite the search and examination of the pending claims and their allowance to issue.

The Commissioner is authorized to Charge Deposit Account No. 50-0220 in the amount of \$60.00 as a fee for a one month extension of time. This amount is believed to be correct. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary L. Miller

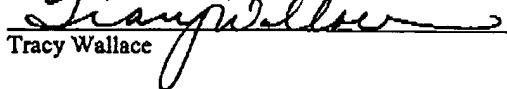
Registration No. 39,303

Customer Number 20792

Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, P.A.
P.O. Box 37428
Raleigh, NC 27627
919-854-1400
919-854-1401 (Fax)

**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office via the central facsimile number 571-273-8300 on November 21, 2005 and is addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Tracy Wallace